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البعثة الدائمة لدولة إريتريا لدى  
الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE STATE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

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*Check against delivery!*

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF ERITREA**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 78TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 78: “UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN  
THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF  
INTERNATIONAL LAW”**

**20 OCTOBER, 2023, NEW YORK**

**Thank you Chair,**

My delegation wishes to thank the United Nations Secretary-General for his report A/78/514 on agenda item 78, titled “**United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**”, as well as the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for its implementation of the Programme of Assistance. The consideration of this agenda item on an annual basis in the Sixth committee is a testimony to the level of importance we all attach to the topic.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representatives of Uganda on behalf of the African Group, Cuba on behalf of the Group of 77 + China, and the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

I wish to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

**Chair,**

Eritrea would like to express its strong support for the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider appreciation of international law.

For more than half a decade the Programme of Assistance has been an important and essential activity of the UN towards a better knowledge of international law, not only to strengthen international peace and security but also to promote friendly relations and cooperation among States, as provided for by the UN Charter.

In this regard, Eritrea has always attached great importance to the role of the Programme of Assistance in the promotion and advancement of international law particularly in developing countries. We see great efforts made through teaching and dissemination of qualified professionals, such as mid-level government officials and lawyers, as well as law students. For example, colleagues from my own country participated in the regional course in international law for Africa earlier this year in Addis Abeba with support of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union.

My delegation also welcomes recent courses conducted by the UN Secretariat in Eritrea on contemporary issues of international law, such as the Law of the Sea. My delegation was able to benefit from the mini-series of lectures in the UN audiovisual library which is accessible to all Member States and could be regarded as another important source of information regarding international law issues, in particular for delegations trying to cover the sixth committee with legal or limited legal professional background. Overall, we underline that collective efforts such as the international law fellowship program, regional courses, audio visual are all important tools in building the capacity of the delegations from developing countries.

### **Chair,**

International law is continuously developing and the broad range of issues it covers are becoming more and more complex. Therefore a diverse plethora of qualified professionals in line with the different approaches of today's international law is needed, in particular within government and higher institutions. Eritrea strongly believes that the activities of the Program of Assistance can benefit to that and should continue to be part of the UN regular budget and receive support by Member States, international and regional organizations, universities and institutions.

I wish to conclude by expressing my delegation's appreciation to the efforts made by the UN Secretariat as well as to the Advisory Committee members who play a role in reviewing the activities of the Programme of Assistance undertaken during a given reporting period.

I thank you.